

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in the present application:

Listing of Claims:

1-46. (canceled)

47. (currently amended) A thermal protection sheath, comprising:

an inner tubular substrate that has an exterior surface with a plurality of recesses therein, said substrate being longitudinally and radially elastically deformable between ~~an original~~ a relaxed configuration and an expanded configuration in which a length or a radius of said substrate is larger than in said ~~original~~ relaxed configuration; and

a reflective foil fixed to said substrate and contacting said exterior surface only intermittently so as to form air pockets, said reflective foil being arranged on said substrate to have a plurality of indentations that correspond to said plurality of recesses when said substrate is in said ~~original~~ relaxed configuration and that disappear when said substrate is elastically deformed from said ~~original~~ relaxed configuration to said expanded configuration.

48. (previously presented) The sheath of claim 47, wherein said substrate comprises a corrugated tube and said recesses are annular depressions in said exterior surface, and

wherein said air pockets are in said annular depressions between said foil and said corrugated tube.

49. (previously presented) The sheath of claim 47, wherein said substrate comprises a woven material and said recesses are between threads of said woven material.